



For Immediate Release
June 16, 2017

Contact: Mathew Barewicz, (802) 828-4153
Mathew.Barewicz@vermont.gov

Vermont Unemployment Rate Holds Steady at 3.1 percent in May

The Vermont Department of Labor announced today that the seasonally-adjusted statewide unemployment rate for May was 3.1 percent. This reflects no change from the revised April rate (3.1 percent). The national rate in May was 4.3 percent. As of the prior month’s preliminary data, the Burlington-South Burlington Metropolitan NECTA was tied for the 12th lowest unemployment rate in the country for all metropolitan areas at 2.3 percent (not-seasonally-adjusted). Overall, Vermont’s unemployment rate was tied for the eighth lowest in the country for the same time period.

Commissioner’s Message

“The May numbers highlight the seasonal pattern of some Vermont business activities. This time of year is about construction and the end of the school year. This combination presents a unique opportunity. Through the local American Job Centers (formerly referred to as Career Resource Centers), the Vermont Department of Labor is working to better inform young people about employment opportunities in the construction industry. This includes apprenticeships as well as entry level positions. Summer youth programming is nearly in full swing and provides numerous opportunities for seasonal employment as well. Anyone interested in finding work in Vermont – young or old – should contact their local American Job Center to learn about current employment and training opportunities available”, said Labor Commissioner Lindsay Kurrle.

Chart 1. Unemployment Rate, seasonally adjusted

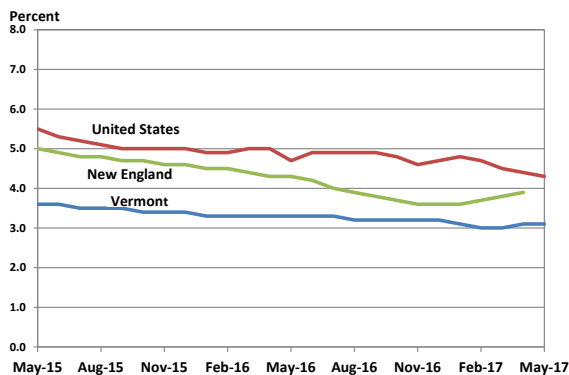
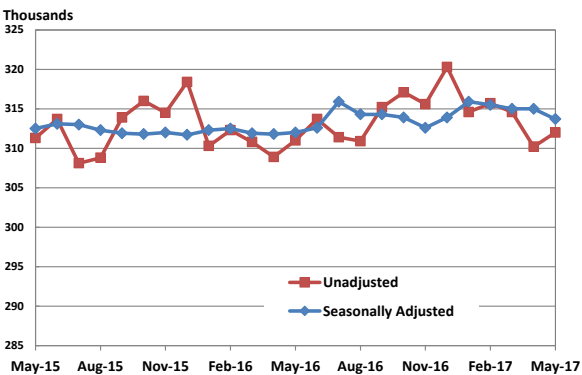


Chart 2. Vermont Nonfarm Payroll Employment



State of Vermont Overview

The Vermont seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was unchanged in May remaining at a statewide average of 3.1 percent. The comparable United States rate is 4.3 percent which experienced a one-tenth of one percentage point decrease from the revised April estimate. The seasonally-adjusted Vermont data for May show the Vermont civilian labor force decreased by 950 from the prior month's revised estimate. The number of employed decreased by 1,150 and the number of unemployed increased by 200. None of the changes were statistically significant in the seasonally-adjusted series.

The May unemployment rates for Vermont's 17 labor market areas ranged from 2.2 percent in White River Junction to 5.0 percent in Woodstock (note: local labor market area unemployment rates are not seasonally-adjusted). For comparison, the May unadjusted unemployment rate for Vermont was 2.9 percent which reflects a decrease of three-tenths of one percentage point from the revised unadjusted April level and a decrease of one-tenth of one percentage point from a year ago.

Analysis of Job Changes by Industry

Not-Seasonally-Adjusted

The preliminary 'not-seasonally-adjusted' jobs estimates for May show an increase of 1,800 jobs when compared to the revised April numbers. There was an increase of 600 jobs between the preliminary and the revised April estimates due to the inclusion of more data. The monthly increase seen in the May numbers was primarily attributable to seasonal movements in construction. The broader economic trends can be detected by focusing on the over-the-year changes in this data series. As detailed in the preliminary 'not-seasonally-adjusted' May data, Total Private industries have increased by 600 jobs (0.2 percent) and Government (including public education) employment has increased by 400 jobs (0.7 percent) in the past year.

Seasonally-Adjusted

The seasonally-adjusted data for May reports a decrease of 1,300 jobs from the revised April data. As with the 'not-seasonally-adjusted' data, this over-the-month change is from the revised April numbers which experienced an increase of 600 jobs from the preliminary estimates. The seasonally-adjusted over-the-month changes in May were mixed at the sub-sector level. Those with a notable percent increase include: Administrative & Waste Services (+400 jobs or +3.7%), Real Estate, Rental & Leasing (+100 jobs or +3.6%), and Wholesale Trade (+200 jobs or +2.2%). Sectors with a notable percent decrease include: Other Services (-400 jobs or -3.6%), Professional & Technical Services (-500 jobs or -3.4%), and Construction (-400 jobs or -2.5%).

The Unemployment and Jobs Report for June is scheduled to be released on Friday, July 21, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

Table 1. Vermont Labor Force Estimates, seasonally adjusted

	May 2017	April 2017	May 2016	Change From:	
				April 2017	May 2016
Civilian Labor Force	346,350	347,300	344,800	-950	1,550
Employed	335,450	336,600	333,450	-1,150	2,000
Unemployed	10,900	10,700	11,350	200	-450
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.1	3.1	3.3	0.0	-0.2

Vermont's labor force, employment and unemployment statistics are produced from a combination of a Statewide survey of households and statistical modeling. The data are produced by the Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS), a cooperative program with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/lau) and the Vermont Department of Labor (www.vtلمي.info/labforce).

Table 2. Vermont Labor Market Areas, Labor Force Estimates

not seasonally adjusted

Labor Market Area ¹	Civilian Labor Force	May 2017		Unemployment Rate ² (%)		
		Employed	Unemployed	May-17	Apr-17	May-16
Vermont Total	342,000	332,000	9,950	2.9	3.2	3.0
Barre-Montpelier	25,800	25,100	700	2.7	3.2	2.6
Bennington	11,100	10,750	350	3.4	3.7	3.5
Brattleboro	22,000	21,200	750	3.5	3.4	3.5
Burlington-South Burlington	124,350	121,550	2,800	2.3	2.3	2.3
Derby	12,450	11,850	600	4.8	6.5	4.6
Highgate	10,200	9,900	300	3.0	3.6	2.9
Manchester	11,200	10,750	450	4.0	4.2	4.2
Middlebury	18,750	18,250	500	2.8	3.1	2.7
Morristown-Waterbury	17,450	16,800	650	3.8	5.0	3.9
Newbury	2,850	2,750	100	3.2	4.4	3.0
Northfield-Waitsfield	6,650	6,400	200	3.2	3.1	3.2
Randolph	7,250	7,000	250	3.2	3.8	3.4
Rutland	21,250	20,550	750	3.4	3.6	4.0
Springfield	10,500	10,150	350	3.2	3.5	3.7
St. Johnsbury	13,550	13,100	450	3.4	4.6	3.6
White River Junction	19,850	19,400	450	2.2	2.4	2.3
Woodstock	3,800	3,600	200	5.0	3.8	5.0

¹The area names above are common language titles; for official names of areas including encompassing cities and towns please refer to the Vermont Labor Market Area map (<http://www.vtلمي.info/lmadef2015.pdf>).

²Rate is the unrounded estimates for the number of unemployed divided by total labor force, expressed as a

Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics Program (LAUS) produced by the Vermont Department of Labor (www.vtلمي.info/labforce.cfm) in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/lau).

Table 3. Vermont Nonfarm Payroll Employment, seasonally adjusted (thousands)

NAICS Industry	May-17	Apr-17	May-16	Change From:		% Change From:	
	Prelim	Revised	Revised	Apr-17	May-16	Apr-17	May-16
Statewide, Total Nonfarm¹	313.7	315.0	312.0	-1.3	1.7	-0.4	0.5
Total Private	257.9	259.4	257.0	-1.5	0.9	-0.6	0.4
Mining, Logging and Construction	16.2	16.6	16.1	-0.4	0.1	-2.4	0.6
Mining & Logging	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Construction	15.4	15.8	15.3	-0.4	0.1	-2.5	0.7
Manufacturing	28.5	29.1	29.9	-0.6	-1.4	-2.1	-4.7
Durable Goods	17.6	18.0	18.8	-0.4	-1.2	-2.2	-6.4
Non-Durable Goods	10.9	11.1	11.1	-0.2	-0.2	-1.8	-1.8
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	55.6	55.5	55.7	0.1	-0.1	0.2	-0.2
Wholesale Trade	9.5	9.3	9.6	0.2	-0.1	2.2	-1.0
Retail Trade	37.7	37.8	38.0	-0.1	-0.3	-0.3	-0.8
Trans., Warehousing & Utilities	8.4	8.4	8.1	0.0	0.3	0.0	3.7
Financial Activities	11.7	11.5	12.0	0.2	-0.3	1.7	-2.5
Finance & Insurance	8.8	8.7	9.0	0.1	-0.2	1.1	-2.2
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	2.9	2.8	3.0	0.1	-0.1	3.6	-3.3
Professional and Business Services	28.0	28.0	27.7	0.0	0.3	0.0	1.1
Professional & Technical Services	14.3	14.8	14.4	-0.5	-0.1	-3.4	-0.7
Administrative & Waste Services	11.3	10.9	11.1	0.4	0.2	3.7	1.8
Education and Health Services	65.2	64.9	64.4	0.3	0.8	0.5	1.2
Private Educational Services	13.7	13.5	13.5	0.2	0.2	1.5	1.5
Health Care & Social Assistance	51.5	51.4	50.9	0.1	0.6	0.2	1.2
Leisure and Hospitality	37.5	38.3	36.1	-0.8	1.4	-2.1	3.9
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	4.8	4.9	4.3	-0.1	0.5	-2.0	11.6
Accommodation & Food Services	32.7	33.4	31.8	-0.7	0.9	-2.1	2.8
Other Services	10.6	11.0	10.5	-0.4	0.1	-3.6	1.0
Government	55.8	55.6	55.0	0.2	0.8	0.4	1.5
Federal	6.9	6.9	6.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
State	19.1	19.1	18.3	0.0	0.8	0.0	4.4
Local	29.8	29.6	29.8	0.2	0.0	0.7	0.0
Burlington-S. Burlington Metro (NECTA)							
Total Nonfarm	124.9	124.9	124.6	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.2

¹Statewide Total Nonfarm is a summed total of major industries. The NAICS industry "Information" is not published seasonally adjusted because the seasonal component, which is small relative to the trend-cycle and irregular components, cannot be separated with sufficient precision.

Source: Current Employment Statistics Program (CES) produced by the Economic and Labor Market Information Division, Vermont Department of Labor (www.vtلمي.info/ces.cfm) in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/sae).

Estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. See Annual Summary for details.

Table 4. Vermont Nonfarm Payroll Employment, not seasonally adjusted

NAICS Industry	May-17	Apr-17	May-16	Change From:		% Change From:	
	Prelim	Revised	Revised	Apr-17	May-16	Apr-17	May-16
TOTAL NONFARM	312,000	310,200	311,000	1,800	1,000	0.6	0.3
TOTAL PRIVATE	254,700	252,100	254,100	2,600	600	1.0	0.2
GOODS-PRODUCING	45,000	43,600	46,500	1,400	-1,500	3.2	-3.2
MINING, LOGGING AND CONSTRUCTION	16,300	15,000	16,600	1,300	-300	8.7	-1.8
Mining & Logging	800	800	800	0	0	0.0	0.0
Construction	15,500	14,200	15,800	1,300	-300	9.2	-1.9
MANUFACTURING	28,700	28,600	29,900	100	-1,200	0.3	-4.0
Durable Goods ¹	17,700	17,700	18,800	0	-1,100	0.0	-5.9
Non-Durable Goods	11,000	10,900	11,100	100	-100	0.9	-0.9
Food Mfg.	5,300	5,300	5,300	0	0	0.0	0.0
SERVICE-PROVIDING	267,000	266,600	264,500	400	2,500	0.2	0.9
TRADE, TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES	55,400	54,600	55,400	800	0	1.5	0.0
Wholesale Trade	9,500	9,300	9,600	200	-100	2.2	-1.0
Retail Trade	37,700	37,200	37,700	500	0	1.3	0.0
Food & Beverage Stores	9,900	9,800	9,900	100	0	1.0	0.0
General Merchandise Stores	3,200	3,200	3,100	0	100	0.0	3.2
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	8,200	8,100	8,100	100	100	1.2	1.2
Transportation & Warehousing	7,000	6,900	6,700	100	300	1.4	4.5
Utilities	1,200	1,200	1,400	0	-200	0.0	-14.3
INFORMATION	4,600	4,500	4,600	100	0	2.2	0.0
FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	11,700	11,400	12,000	300	-300	2.6	-2.5
Finance & Insurance	8,800	8,700	9,000	100	-200	1.1	-2.2
Real Estate, Rental & Leasing	2,900	2,700	3,000	200	-100	7.4	-3.3
PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	28,400	27,700	27,900	700	500	2.5	1.8
Professional & Technical Services	14,400	14,700	14,300	-300	100	-2.0	0.7
Administrative & Waste Services	11,700	10,600	11,500	1,100	200	10.4	1.7
EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES	65,000	65,000	64,400	0	600	0.0	0.9
Educational Services	13,400	13,800	13,500	-400	-100	-2.9	-0.7
Colleges and Universities	8,400	8,800	8,500	-400	-100	-4.5	-1.2
Health Care & Social Assistance	51,600	51,200	50,900	400	700	0.8	1.4
Ambulatory Health Care Services	17,300	17,000	17,000	300	300	1.8	1.8
Hospitals	13,900	13,900	13,700	0	200	0.0	1.5
Nursing & Residential Care Facilities	7,500	7,400	7,500	100	0	1.4	0.0
Social Assistance	12,900	12,900	12,700	0	200	0.0	1.6
LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY	33,900	34,400	32,800	-500	1,100	-1.5	3.4
Arts, Entertainment & Recreation	4,700	4,300	4,300	400	400	9.3	9.3
Accommodation & Food Services	29,200	30,100	28,500	-900	700	-3.0	2.5
Accommodation	8,300	9,700	8,700	-1,400	-400	-14.4	-4.6
Hotels & Motels	7,000	8,800	7,700	-1,800	-700	-20.5	-9.1
Food Services & Drinking Places	20,900	20,400	19,800	500	1,100	2.5	5.6
OTHER SERVICES	10,700	10,900	10,500	-200	200	-1.8	1.9
GOVERNMENT	57,300	58,100	56,900	-800	400	-1.4	0.7
Federal Government	6,900	6,900	6,900	0	0	0.0	0.0
State Government Education	8,600	10,300	8,500	-1,700	100	-16.5	1.2
Other State Government	10,000	9,700	9,600	300	400	3.1	4.2
Local Government Education	24,300	23,800	24,500	500	-200	2.1	-0.8
Other Local Government	7,500	7,400	7,400	100	100	1.4	1.4

Source: Current Employment Statistics Program (CES) produced by the Economic and Labor Market Information Division, Vermont Department of Labor (www.vtلمي.info/ces.cfm) in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (www.bls.gov/sae).

¹Publication of Computer & Electrical Equipment Mfg. and Fabricated Metal Products Mfg. has been discontinued as of January 2017.

Estimates are preliminary and subject to revision. See Annual Summary for details.